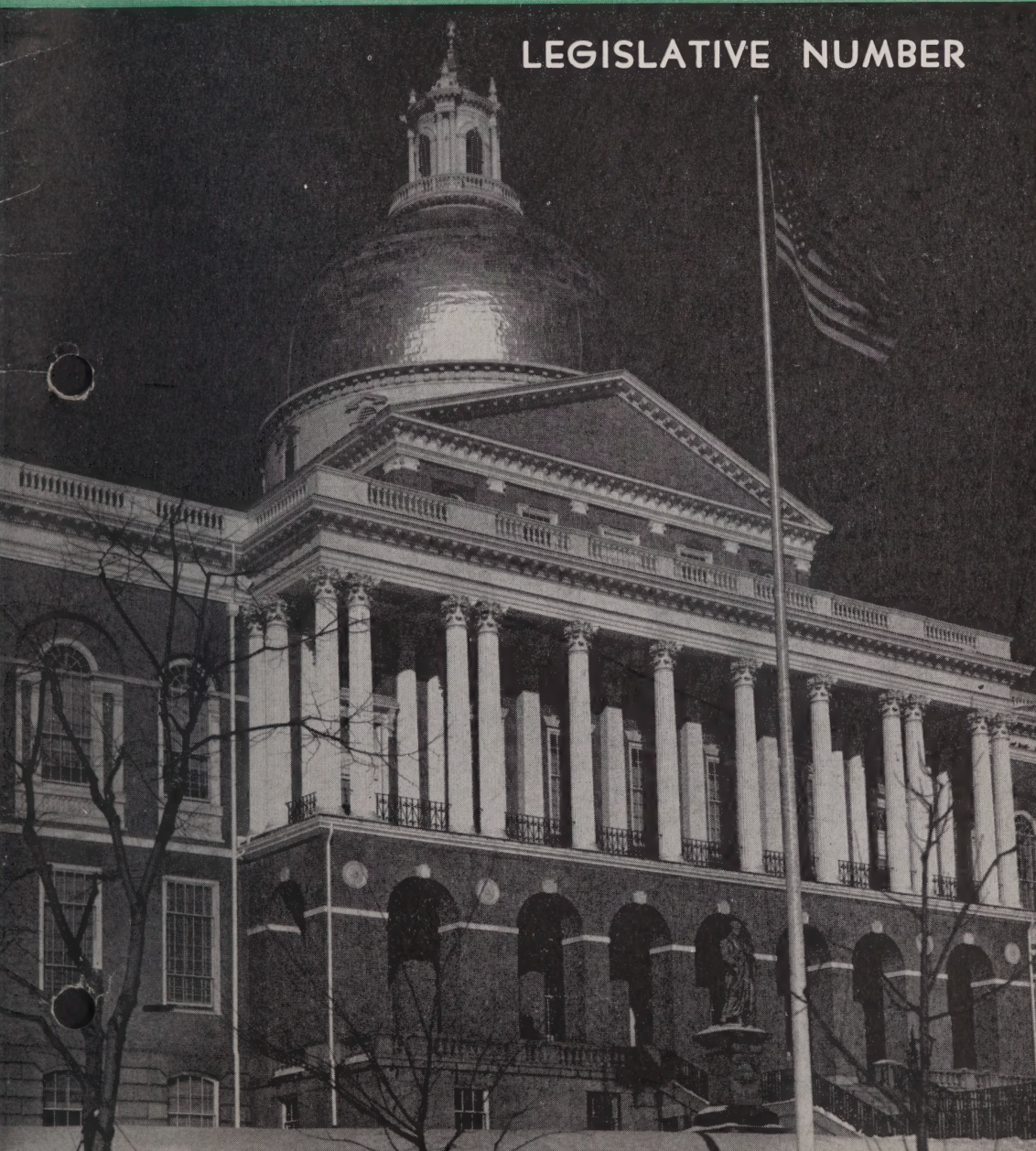
The Hampden Hippocrat

A Bulletin for the Hampden District of the Massachusetts Medical Society

VOLUME XVIII FEBRUARY, 1962 NO. 2

LEGISLATIVE NUMBER



Hampden District Medical Society

1414 STATE STREET — SPRINGFIELD, MASS.
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The Hampden Hippocrat

"Life is short and art is long, the occasion fleeting, experience fallacious and judgment difficult."
Hippocrates

Founded in 1942 by Drs. Edward P. Bagg and William A. R. Chapin, and published monthly except July and August.

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GUEST EDITORIAL

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

**Robert W. Emery, M.D., Legislative Councilor,
Hampden District Medical Society**

The Legislative Committee of the Massachusetts Medical Society consists of a legislative councilor elected from each district. Meetings of the Committee are held regularly in Boston prior to each Council meeting. The work of the Committee consists mainly of investigating and discussing pending and future bills in the Legislature which pertain to the field of medicine. Recommendations are then forwarded to the Massachusetts Medical Society as to the action of the Council on these bills. Recommendations are received from other committees of the Society as to action on bills which directly affect their particular sphere - such as Committees on Medical Education, Public Health, etc. At times these committees request initiation of legislation. If the bill is considered necessary and sound, the Legislative Counsel drafts a bill and introduces it into the State Legislature. As you may recall, last year the "Good Samaritan Act" was introduced at the request of the Society. Incidentally, this bill was very quickly defeated. This year you will notice a bill relative to seat belts in cars is being introduced. This was requested by the Committee on Traffic Accidents and the bill was drafted

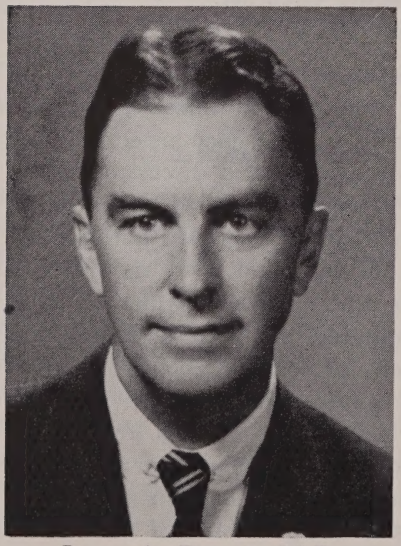
and placed in the "hopper" at the request of the Legislative Committee. (See page 21).

Fortunately, we have in our headquarters, two very hard working, astute men; namely, Mr. Charles Dunn, Legislative Counsel, and Mr. Everett Spencer, Director of Public Relations and Administration. Both of these gentlemen are completely familiar with all legislation pertaining to our field and are quick to alert the Council and members concerning bills which they feel are pertinent to medicine. These men are seriously interested in their work and in the Society. They spend many hours, far beyond the expected, in the interest of the Society's members.

Unfortunately, these two men and the officers of the Society alone cannot influence our state legislators to any great degree concerning their opinions on pending bills. The vote of the legislator is determined by the interest of his constituents - - YOU.

I can only ask you sincerely, and with great emphasis that, if you see a bill, or are asked by the District to send a letter or telegram to your Representative or Senator . . . PLEASE DO SO. (See page 9). In this way only will our representatives in Boston be convinced as to how they should vote. Look only to the past few years when bills detrimental to medicine were passed and only because our opponents appeared in overflowing numbers at the hearings and only because they, their friends, and their neighbors flooded the legislature with letters and telegrams. It takes such a short time and little money to protect our high quality of medicine.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

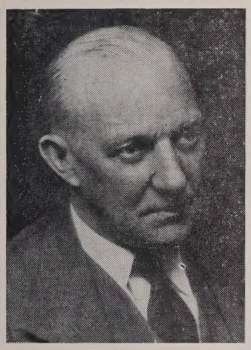


JOHN A. BURKE, M.D.

It is with deep regret that we learned recently of Dr. John Burke's imminent departure for the Volunteer State of Tennessee. Over the years Hampden District had become accustomed to depend on John in one way or another, and often in many ways at one and the same time. In addition to serving as President of our Society he has served also as councilor, as treasurer, and on numerous committees. Workers of this type are scarce, and are not easily replaceable. Dr. Burke will be sorely missed.

He will be missed most of all by the Hippocrat on whose Board of Editors he has served for the past 7 years. His frank, straightforward and lucid style contributed greatly to the quality of our Bulletin. His final item appears on page 20. The least we can do is to wish John in his new venture good health and good fortune. He is well deserving of both.

President's Page



LETTERS

The quality of American medical care is seriously threatened by our legislators.

Like the patients who come to our offices demonstrating and admitting ignorance of elementary principles of the practice of medicine they should not consider themselves as experts, but seek guidance from the medical profession.

They should not and do not distrust our motives and the advice of those they trust with their very lives.

Political expediency should not trespass in their decisions based upon phony hearings at which medical advice is deliberately avoided.

This does not excuse us from protecting all patients present and future from the permanent danger that seems imminent.

The remedy is simple. It is well known by all that you have the trust and confidence of your patients. Prescribe for them with educational material (that your Society office can provide) in your offices and your mailed correspondence to them.

Take time to talk to them that they may warn others. And then *you* write to *your* legislators.

Five hundred doctors can and should represent Hampden County in this purely medical matter.

Encourage such leaders as Senators Harry F. Byrd, Robert S. Kerr, Representatives Charles A. Halleck and Wilbur D. Mills, who are under very heavy pressure.

Government controlled (King-Anderson) interference is unalterably opposed to our avowed purpose "of providing the best possible medical care for our patients".

STATE LEGISLATION

After this "warm up", it should not be difficult to follow the advice of your hard working Legislative Committees. They will promptly inform you when and where your help is needed.

Read their digests of current bills so you may better advise your patients who in turn should advise their legislators, (Pages 21 - 23).

Let us not rest until we feel we have done our part as responsible citizens and dedicated physicians.

Jerome A. Whitney, M. D.

FEBRUARY (6)
MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting, which is held at Storrowton, is called at 8:35 P.M. by President Whitney . . . 163 in attendance against 145 reservations . . . The following are introduced by the president: Dr. David W. Wallwork, president, M. M. S.; Mrs. Wallwork; Mrs. C. S. D'Avanzo, president, Hampden Auxiliary; and Dr. B. L. Wales, new Treasurer of District Society . . .

Secretary Smith reminds committee chairmen to submit informational annual reports to the Society and the Hippocrat by March 20 . . . He invites members to indicate their willingness to serve on committees . . . Report of Public Relations committee is received (page 28).

Motion that P-R committee be represented on Grievance Committee is defeated . . . Motion to rescind previous medical school vote is defeated . . . Motion favoring compulsory A. M.A. membership is defeated . . .

Guest speaker is President Wallwork of M.M.S. . . . He warns against chiropody, chiropractic and similar state legislation in the "hopper" . . . K-A bill, he points out, could be defeated with a little more effort, especially from this part of the country . . . He cautions against the "Seven Cardinal Sins" as described in Medical Economics of Dec. 1961 . . . He lauds our District Society as one of the best in the state . . . Dr. Wallwork's remarks are very well received . . .

(Photos of meeting will appear in the March issue of Hippocrat).

NEWSPAPER SERIES

On January 14, 1962, H.D.M.S. began to publish a series of weekly articles in the Springfield Sunday Republican. The series will run for fourteen weeks as follows:

1. The History of Hampden District Medical Society—Its Present Organization and Objectives
2. Radiation Hazards—Present and Future
3. Fall-Out Shelters? What does our local Medical Society say?
4. Medical Care of the Aged
5. The Cytology Test
6. The Proposed New Medical School
7. Emergency Medical Calls
8. Group Practice
10. Labor Unions and Medical Care (in Massachusetts)
11. Future Physicians—What is Hampden District Medical Society doing about it? (To include ? physician shortage)
12. The Springfield Poison Center
13. Pooled Funds or Pre-Pay Medical Insurance
14. Our Medical Welfare Agencies

COMING EVENTS

HAMPDEN DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, FEBRUARY 20, 1962

HAMPDEN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL 24, 1962

PEDIATRIC GUEST SPEAKER, SPRINGFIELD HOSPITAL, MARCH 8, 1962 (PAGE 26)

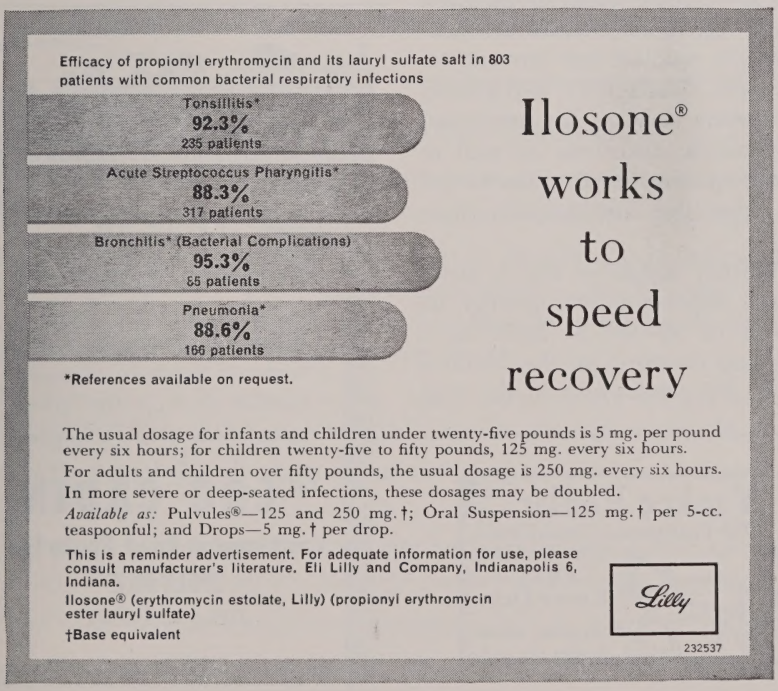
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF GENERAL PRACTICE, LAS VEGAS, APRIL 6 - 12

AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS, PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 9 - 13

CENSORS MEETING, MAY 3, 1962

M.M.S. ANNUAL MEETING, BOSTON, MAY 22, 23, and 24, 1962

A.M.A. ANNUAL MEETING, CHICAGO ILLINOIS, JUNE 25 - 29, 1962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MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Mental Health Committee of the Hampden District Medical Society has been profoundly concerned with the insufficiency of psychiatric services currently available in this area. On November 14, 1961, the Committee held a meeting at the Municipal Hospital in Springfield to which were invited all those interested in the field of Mental Health. The theme of the meeting was: "Unmet Mental Health Needs and How Best to Meet Them".

In attendance were: Doctors Whitney, Goodman, Freedman, Griffin, Wheeler, Ayres, Smith, Eugene Boss, Jr., Stein, Clark, D'Avanzo, and Cooper; Messrs. Gifford, Barrett, Ferrini, Affleck, Woodford, Shapiro, and Van Wart; and the Misses Alice Halligan, Barbara Rose, and Annie Porter.

There was a broad presentation in which the more acute needs were discussed and multiple suggestions made as to how best to meet them. All concurred in the opinion that current resources were inadequate, particularly the therapeutic services for acute and mild psychiatric disorders, as well as the follow-up services for discharged patients from the Northampton State Hospital.

Dr. Whitney suggested that a small, select, and representative number of individuals be invited to serve as a liaison group to represent the Medical Society in the community in the area of Mental Health.

Subsequent to the meeting, the following people were contacted and agreed to participate as a liaison group:

Mr. Everett Thatcher, Executive Director, United Fund of Greater Springfield.

Mr. Harry Gifford, Executive Director, Springfield Hospital

Miss Alice Halligan, Adult Education

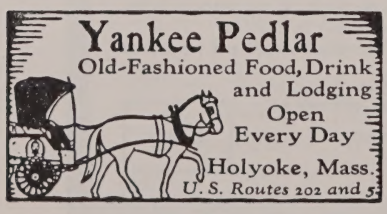
Atty. Edward Collins, Clerk of the District Court

Mr. Thomas Donnellan, Director, Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission

Dr. Marcus Kiley, Deputy Superintendent, Springfield Public School System

Olive A. Cooper, M. D.

Respectfully submitted
Olive A. Cooper, M. D.,
Chairman



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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"I would not discourage you, because the task is not hopeless—but it's not self-executed. You have probably the greatest opportunity of any generation of your profession that has ever lived, and all future generations of your profession are going to know whether or not you did your part in keeping the environment for them that has been such a blessing to you. If you do what you are capable of doing and the rank and file of those identified with you across the nation join you, you can tell your children that you made the fight that kept for you the environment which has been your blessing—and passed it on, unimpaired and unsullied, to those that you love even more than you do yourself."

—Senator Kerr

H.D.A.M.A.

The Hampden District Association of Medical Assistants is offering a 12 week course "Psychology of Human Relations" at West Springfield High School starting Monday, January 15, 1962 through the University Extension. The instructor will be Mr. Tanner of the Guidance Department of the West Springfield School Department. The H.D.A.M.A. is the only such organization recognized and approved by the American Medical Association, the Massachusetts Medical Society, and the Hampden District Medical Society.

8,000 physicians examined at A.M.A. conventions showed that: 20.9% had abnormal E.K.G.'s; 14.9% had abnormal chest findings; and 3.4% had elevated intraocular tension.

ATTENTION COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN!

In order to shorten the coming Annual Meeting the Executive Committee voted that not all annual reports need be presented at that meeting.

Reports which are purely informational in character may instead be published in the Hippocrat. The only two requirements are: (1) that the report not exceed the maximum of 300 words (2) that the report reach the desk of the Editor-in-Chief not later than March 20.

These reports will appear in the April issue of the Hippocrat prior to the Annual Meeting, which is scheduled to take place on April 24.

Reports containing "recommendations" will have to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Chairmen of sub-committees will not present reports at the Annual Meeting. They will instead report to their respective Parent Committees.

Your cooperation is urgently requested.

Ray T. Smith, Secretary

YOUR STATE LEGISLATORS

If you would like to write to your representatives in the General Court of Mass. regarding proposed legislation, you will find below a list of all the Hampden County senators and representatives as well as the districts they represent. All may be addressed at the State House, Boston 33, Mass.

Senators

Worcester and Hampden District: Includes Brimfield, Hampden, Holland, Monson, Palmer, Wales and Wilbraham in Hampden County; Belchertown and Ware in Hampshire County and Worcester County communities —Paul H. Benoit, (D).

First Hampden District: Ludlow and Wards 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 in Springfield—Stanley J. Zarod, (D).

Second Hampden District: Chicopee, Holyoke and Ward 1 of Springfield—Maurice A. Donahue, (D).

Hampden and Berkshire District: Agawam, Blandford, Chester, East Longmeadow, Granville, Longmeadow, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, Ward 3 of Springfield, Tolland, Westfield and West Springfield in Hampden County and other communities in Hampshire and Berkshire Counties—Otto F. Burkhardt, (R).

Franklin and Hampshire District: Northampton and other communities in Franklin and Hampshire Counties—Ralph C. Mahar, (R).

Representatives

First Hampden District: Brimfield, East Longmeadow, Hampden, Holland, Longmeadow, Monson, Palmer, Wales, and Wilbraham—Raymond H. Beach, (R) and George T. Smith, (R).

Second Hampden District: Ward 5 and Ward 6, Chicopee and Ludlow—John F. Thompson, (D).

Third Hampden District: Ward 7, 8 and 9, Chicopee—Roger L. Bernashe, (D).

Fourth Hampden District: Ward 1, 2, 3 and 4, Chicopee—Joseph Garczynski, Jr., (D).

Fifth Hampden District: Wards 2 and 8, Springfield—John J. Fitzgerald, (D) and Dave A. Vigneault, (D).

Sixth Hampden District: Wards 3 and 4, Springfield—William J. Kingston, (D) and Anthony Scibelli, (D).

Seventh Hampden District: Ward 5, Springfield—Bernard J. Pat Foley, (D).

Eighth Hampden District: Ward 6, Springfield—Philip K. Kimball, (R).

Ninth Hampden District: Ward 7, Springfield—John P. O'Brien, (D).

Tenth Hampden District: Ward 1, Springfield—Armand N. Tancrati, (D).

Eleventh Hampden District: Agawam, Blandford, Chester, Granville, Montgomery, Russell, Southwick, Tolland and West Springfield—George W. Porter, (R) and James C. Corcoran, (D).

Twelfth Hampden District: Wards 1, 2 and 4, Holyoke—Stephen T. Chmura, (D).

Thirteenth Hampden District: Wards 3 and 6, Holyoke—John J. Cavanaugh, (D).

Fourteenth Hampden District: Wards 5 and 7, Holyoke—Edwin D. Gorman, (D).

Fifteenth Hampden District: Westfield—Robert J. McGinn, (D).

COMPLIMENTS

Ernest A. Byron

SPRINGFIELD

HOW TO WRITE YOUR LEGISLATORS

1. Be brief.
2. Be straightforward and sincere, giving your own ideas in your own words. Do not follow a form letter.
3. Be friendly and courteous.
4. Do not use carbon copies. Write each man individually.
5. Sign your letter legibly and always include your address.

Honorable Benjamin Smith
United States Senator
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Leverett Saltonstall
United States Senator
142 Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Edward P. Boland
U. S. Congressman
2nd Hampden District
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Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sylvio O. Conte
U. S. Congressman
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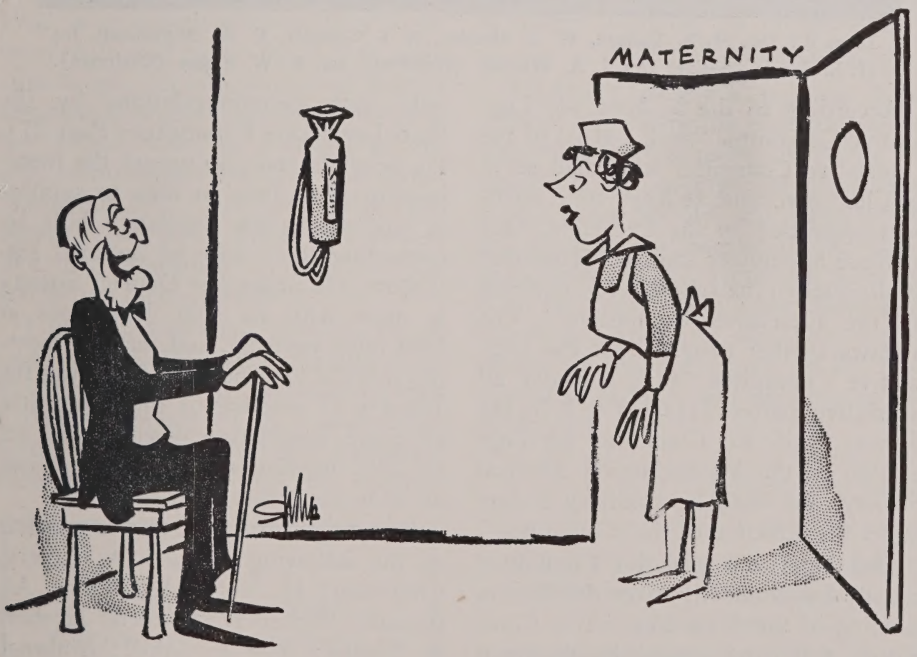

"OH NO — JUST REMINISCING!"

Courtesy Medical Society Magazine Group

HAMPDEN AT WORK

6 — The Legislative Committee

L. to R.: Drs. H. B. Tillman, W. E. Mozden, A. J. Connelly, E. W. Beauchamp, Jr., H. R. Tombs. Sitting: Drs. J. A. Whitney (President), and R. W. Emery (Chairman).

According to the by-laws the Legislative Committee "shall consist of the Legislative Councilor, who shall serve as Chairman, and at least four members appointed by the President. One of these appointees shall be designated as alternate to the Legislative Councilor by the Executive Committee". The by-laws further provide that the Legislative Committee "shall consider all legislative matters referred to it by the Society or by the Committee on Legislation of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and shall be auxiliary to and under the direction of that Committee".

Our District Legislative Committee usually meets shortly after the Boston meeting of the State Legislative Committee, following which the chairman submits a report to the Society. He submits also a list of medical legislative bills with recommendations by the State Legislative Committee (Page 21). He reminds and encourages the membership from time to time to support or oppose certain legislative bills by contacting their state or national legislators. He urges our District Society to meet with its state legislators at least once annually, and that the meeting in 1962 be scheduled following the January 17 meeting of the Committee on State Legislation when it will act on 1962 legislation. The least we can do is to cooperate 100%.

Our Legislative Committee consists of the following: Robert W. Emery, Chairman; H. Bernard Tillman, Alternate; Walter E. Mozden; Herbert R. Tombs; John F. Appel; Ambrose J. Connelly and Eugene W. Beauchamp, Jr.

CORRESPONDENCE

RE: AMA MEMBERSHIP

Dear Hippocrat:

In the *Hippocrat* of January, 1962, you invite comment on compulsory AMA membership for fellows of the MMS. I believe that there is very little argument that the AMA has done great things in advancing American medicine in its professional functions. However, the story in the political field is entirely different. Responsiveness to "Grass Roots" opinions is non-existent. Public relations is inept. Positions taken on national issues affecting physicians, rather than providing constructive proposals for the benefit of doctors, as well as the general public, can best be described as negatavistic rear-guard action. On these last two points, the enclosed editorial from the Springfield Daily News of January 18, 1962, is an excellent illustration of the deservedly bad press the AMA manages to get. As an example of lack of response to doctors' opinions when policy is laid down in Chicago, let me only mention that poll after poll shows that about 70% of doctors want social security coverage, while the powers that be, adamantly refuse to give ground in their opposition *.

I happened to come across a recent issue of the *Massachusetts Physician* in which the issue of compulsory membership is presented in Socratic dialogue. The main point that I distilled from this opus was that the requirement of medical society membership as a prerequisite to hospital staff appointments and favorable insurance programs through MMS will prevent mass resignations, if the proposed rule is passed. Yet, I am sure that the author of the article would be among the first to decry such economic blackmail when it is practiced by labor unions.

Your article "To Be or Not To Be" asks the question "Why should 76% of MMS members who belong to AMA have to subsidize the 24% who choose not to belong?" The question I should like to ask in turn: Why should those of us who believe that AMA political activity is in the long run going to result, through its policy of too little and too late, in the type of medical practice that we are trying to avoid, subsidize the organization?

Walter F. Tauber, M.D.

* (At the last annual meeting of the A.M.A. the House of Delegates voted something in the order of 140 to 39 against S. S. coverage for physicians. Every state Society was expected to poll its members, but not all did. Delegates from M.M.S. voted in favor of S.S. but they were overwhelmingly outvoted. (Authority for above information: Lawrence Dame, M.D., past president M.M.S. and delegate to the A.M.A.))

Ed.

(More: next page)

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Dear Hippocrat:

The delight that some newspapers seem to take in excoriating the A.M.A. often tempts them to indulge in glibness, half truths and distortion. Typical is a recent editorial in one of the Springfield newspapers. At one point, for example, the author writes, with the self assurance that often beguiles the unwary, that " . . . the Social Security based medical plan is actually a far cry from 'socialized medicine', no matter what the A.M.A. has been claiming . . . ". And yet no less an exponent of the K-A. bill than labor leader Walter Reuther as much as admitted its socialistic implications, and Congressman Forand, the daddy of all social security health bills, was even more explicit. He predicted that if his bill were enacted the age requirements for benefits would be lowered gradually from its present 65 so as to include more and more of the population. Only today (Jan. 26) Time magazine reminds us, of something we have known right along, that Britain's socialized medicine metamorphosed from "state run health insurance for employed workers".

The editorial takes the A.M.A. to task for conducting an extensive campaign against the K-A bill without mentioning that the bill's supporters did even more campaigning, more lobbying, and even some barnstorming. It fails to mention also that the A.M.A. supported the Kerr-Mills Act which is now being implemented successfully in many states across the nation. The A.M.A.'s recently proposed Blue Shield plan for the aged should serve to implement the K-M act which provides hospital care but no medical or surgical fees.

All newspaper attacks on the A.M.A. have at least one thing in common: they stubbornly refrain from mentioning any of the numerous and invaluable services rendered constantly by our national organization to the health of the public. It is up to us, therefore, to familiarize the public with these facts and to support the A.M.A. in its tremendous task of maintaining high standards of medical education and of safeguarding the public against charlatanism and quackery. We may well begin by supporting the principle of universal A.M.A. membership for all active fellows of the M.M.S.

Ralph T. Miller, M.D.

Dear Hippocrat:

In response to your item in the January issue about compulsory AMA membership, I am very much against such membership. I feel that every member of Hampden District should be asked to vote by written ballot for or against it.

John M. Maloney, M.D.

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RE 6-4595

Dear Hippocrat:

Physicians who entered the practice of medicine fifty years ago hastened to join the A.M.A. in order to avail themselves of the opportunities to keep up with accellerating advances in the medical sciences. The J.A.M.A. in itself provided a practical post-graduate course week by week, including as it did also excerpts from the world's leading journals. At the end of each year, the annual meeting of the Association served as an inspirational climax with sessions of the various sections, medicine, surgery and the others. Opportunities were presented not only to form judgments, but also to participate in discussion. Until about 1950 all M.M.S. members were automatically members also of the A.M.A.

To help support the agency that wages an earnest and never-ending war on quackery, and keeps a vigilant eye on new remedies, foods, and medical equipment was and still is our duty and privilege since it is primarily in the public interest. We should be glad also to assist the central authorities in improving constantly the standards of medical education.

Councilors attending the last Council meeting will recall that, after thorough discussion, the overwhelming vote was in favor of so-called compulsory A.M.A. membership. "Compulsory" in this instance is an unfortunate word, but let's not forget that not everything compulsory is undesirable. Example: Small pox vaccination.

Edward P. Bagg, M.D.

(At its Feb. 7 meeting, Council of the M.M.S. voted *in favor* of compulsory membership in the AMA.

Ed.)

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

A meeting of the Public Health Committee was held on January 17, 1962 at the headquarters office.

Dr. Izenstein gave his final report of the Diabetic Detection Week Drive. There were 2500 returns of which 150 were positive reactors. This amounts to about 1 in every 100 of the inhabitants of the area. Dr. Izenstein who was previously appointed as chairman of a subcommittee of chronic diseases, appointed the following doctors to be on his committee, Drs. Maloney, Dubois, Millman, Ayres, Steele, Kaufman, H. Turner, Joffe, Platt, Cooper, and Fisher.

ADDENDUM

Dr. Byrnes stayed on after the meeting with Dr. Pokorny and Dr. Whitney and met with Mr. Robert Berry of the public school department. Dr. Byrnes and Mr. Berry are working together on the publicity about the school physical fitness program. They are preparing material for TV presentation and for news releases.

Mrs. Thompson, Assistant Principal of Trade High School, and Mrs. Burzynski, nurse in charge of medical training at Trade High then met with Dr. Pokorny and Dr. Whitney. They are trying to establish a new vocational course to train laboratory assistants next year and need a laboratory for such training.

Norman A. Pokorny, M. D.
Chairman

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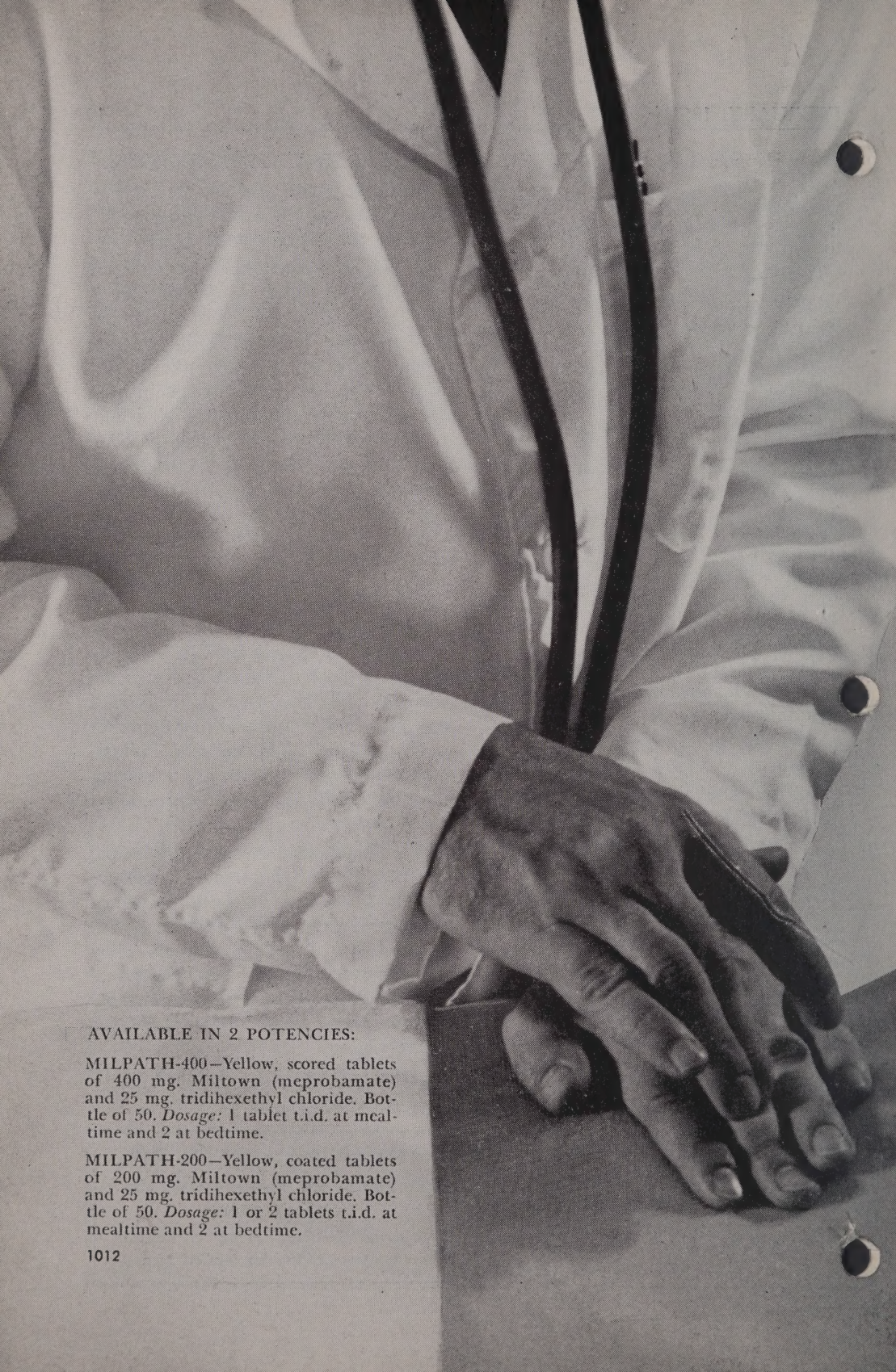

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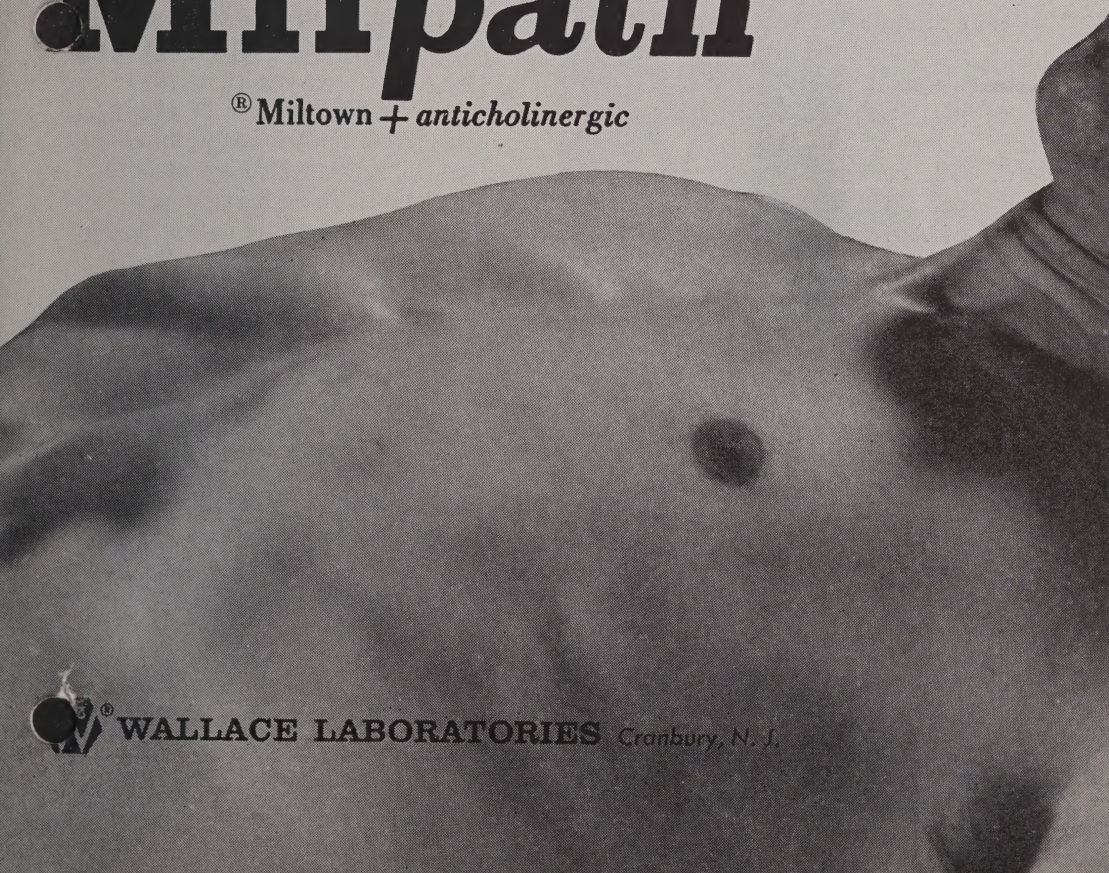

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THE MAKING OF A COUNCIL MEETING

Council is the legislative body of the M.M.S. It transacts practically all the business of our State Society. It consists largely of councilors chosen by the district societies (one councilor for every 25 members); chairmen of standing committees; and officers of the state and district societies. Council holds 3 meetings annually: October, February, and during the annual meeting of the M.M.S.

The above facts are fairly well known to most members, but it is doubtful whether many of us ever stop to consider how much time and effort go into the making of a council meeting. Typical is the meeting of February 7, the preparation for which went somewhat as follows:

1. Reports of chairmen of the several state committees were submitted before the deadline of December 8, 1961. 20 such reports were received by the Secretary of the M.M.S.
2. The collected reports were then published in a 58-page Circular of Advance Information, copies of which were mailed to all the councilors about 6 weeks before the stated Council meeting. (Any member may obtain a copy of the "Circular" on written request to the Secretary of the M.M.S.)
3. Next, the Executive Councilor of each District called a pre-council meeting. In Hampden this meeting was held on January 4, at the Springfield Hospital, with Executive Councilor Dr. Allen Johnson presiding. The purpose of the pre-council meeting is 1) to consider the reports contained in the "Circular"; 2) to afford each District's councilors an opportunity to express their views on matters to come before Council, and 3) to assist the Executive Councilor in formulating his own views before attending the state Executive Committee meeting.
4. The Executive Committee, which is composed of the Executive Councilors of the 20 Districts (plus the officers of the M.M.S.), met on January 10, in accordance with its custom of meeting about one month prior to the stated Council meeting. Here, again, every committee report was thoroughly scrutinized and carefully considered. Special attention was paid to reports bearing recommendations. In each instance the Executive committee after due deliberation approved, disapproved or offered recommendations of its own.
5. The final pre-council step is to publish the recommendations of the Executive Committee and to furnish each councilor with a copy thereof. This plus a copy of the Advance Circular of Information form the "Agenda"

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and "work sheets" the councilors are to use throughout the council meeting.

This brings us finally to the Council meeting of February 7, for which all the above preparations were made. Here, with the President of the M.M.S. in the chair, proceedings are conducted in strict compliance with parliamentary rules and democratic principles.

Little time is spent and no action is taken on reports that are purely informational in character. However, reports bearing recommendations are acted upon but only after due deliberation and ample discussion, some of which is quite spirited. Council, needless to say, has the last word, and there is no mistake about it. It may choose to go along with the original recommendations of the various committees, or with those of the Executive Committee, or it may decide to disregard both sets of recommendations and act on its own. All transactions of the meeting are recorded stenographically for publication in the "Proceedings" and these are distributed to the membership at a later date.

Conclusion: Much work on the part of many people goes into the making of a typical Council meeting.

M.

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AUXILIARY DOINGS

Doctors' Daughters. Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Richard Scott, a group of doctors' daughters of high school age, have agreed to serve as an informal Junior Auxiliary to help when needed with paper work at the District Society Office. The charter members are the Misses Frances Baker, Diane Corcoran, Charlene D'Avanzo, "Dee-Dee" Derrick, Karen Kisiel, Mary Mahoney, Judy Memery, Andrea Mosig, Linda Parent, Ann Marie Rodney, Linda Scott, and Janet Visconti. A hearty welcome to them. Mrs. Scott would be happy to hear from any other girls interested in joining the group.

National Diabetic Week. In response to a request from the committee sponsoring this project, members of the Woman's Auxiliary sent 2100 test reports to the individuals concerned and to the physicians where it was indicated. The women who gave their time to this task were: Mrs. Joseph Angelica, Mrs. James Allen, Mrs. Mario Cariani, Mrs. Harry Corwin, Mrs. Charles D'Avanzo, Mrs. Louis Izenstein, Mrs. Oliver J. Menard, Mrs. John Maloney, Mrs. William Mosig, and Mrs. Irving Steinberg.

Christmas Tea. The chairmen, Mrs. Aldo Leani and Mrs. Joseph Stirlacci, as well as their committees, and the honorary chairman, Mrs. Charles D'Avanzo, are to be congratulated for providing a very pleasant opening to the holidays for some 100 Auxiliary members and their husbands on December 10th at the Springfield Country Club. The decorations, the beautifully appointed tea table, and the choral group under the direction of Mrs. Walter Williams, assisted by Mrs. Stanley Stusick, all contributed to the occasion. A light touch (but with serious intent directed at annual health check-ups for doctors) was enjoyed when the chorus sang "Take Good Care of Yourself" with pantomine by Dr. and Mrs. John Maloney. The addition of male voices in some of the carols enhanced the latter's effect. For this we thank Drs. Angelica, Bloniarz, Gaudreau, Fitzpatrick, Mozden, Sanella, Suzor, and Visconti.

First Aid. Auxiliary members who in December completed the standard Red Cross First Aid Course are: Mrs. Roger Cheney, Mrs. Charles D'Avanzo, Mrs. Roger Dudis, Mrs. F. Frederick Fortin, Mrs. Leonard Jagoda, Mrs. Joseph Kresock, Mrs. Aldo J. Leani, and Mrs. Joseph Stirlacci. Our appreciation goes to Mrs. Leslie Woods, instructor.

Mrs. Elmer Franseen, Chairman
Publicity to the Hippocrat

BLUE SHIELD LOSES RATE HIKE APPEAL

Late in December of 1961, a request by Blue Shield for a 10% rate increase was turned down by the Superior Court in Boston. The case came to the Court on an appeal from a previous rejection of the rate hike by the Mass. Insurance Commissioner. Counsel for the Blue Shield contended that there has been no substantial rate increase since 1950. An Assistant Attorney General argued that the Legislature in setting up Blue Shield intended to provide low cost medical service.

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AVOID CONFLICTING MEETINGS

The Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Medical Society will be held in Boston on May 22, 23 and 24. In order to encourage everybody to attend, members of our District Society are urged to cancel hospital conferences, and to avoid scheduling all other meetings during the three-day period of the State Meeting.

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MEDICAL READER

Doctor Shortage?

With the current inquiry of our State Legislature into the advisability of a State-supported medical school in Massachusetts, it was interesting to note a recent article in the J.A.M.A.* dealing with the question of whether or not there will be a doctor shortage in this country in the next twenty years. Incidentally, it is obvious that many state legislators are convinced that Massachusetts is now, or soon will be, suffering from a shortage of physicians, despite the fact that in Mass. we enjoy one of the highest physician-population ratios in the country.

In the J.A.M.A., the author states that an estimate of 11,000 graduates per year in 1980 will be needed as compared to the 7,000 per year today. This is based on a projected population of 235 million people in 1980. Projected estimates of the population for 1910, 1920, and 1930 are reviewed and reveal how widely said estimates varied from the actual population figures 20 years later, and usually on the high side. Pointing out that our birth rate has been falling for the last four years, he cautions against the fallibility of long-range population estimates.

It is also pointed out that the modern physician sees far more people today than did his predecessor twenty years ago. He spends far less time travelling on calls, sees more patients both in his office and hospital, and has had increasingly more of his tasks taken over by ancillary personnel; namely, nurses, technicians and therapists. Therefore, modern doctors are much more productive today than their counterparts of twenty years ago.

The author's conclusion is that we could use more doctors today and in the future; however, we could also get along with less than we have. It is a fact that there are far more doctors in the United States today, in relation to population, than West Germany, Australia, England, France, or Sweden. Moreover, all these countries have socialized medicine, where expense is no deterrent and people can feel free to demand full use of their doctor's time and skills. Yet we hear no cry of doctor shortages there. Why should we here?

* Meerman, J. P. Some Comments on the Predicted Future Shortage of Physicians, J.A.M.A. 177:793-799 (Sept. 16), 1961.

Burke

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STATE LEGISLATION

1962

The following recommendations were made by the State Legislative Committee of the Mass. Medical Society at its regular meeting held on January 17, 1962. Proposed bills on which no action was taken by the Committee are not included.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION

H. 1286—Relative to persons driving or in control of motor vehicles after consuming alcoholic liquor. *Approve* in principle. Specifically in favor of "implied consent" provision in Section 7.

H. 1526—Requiring the reporting of the names of certain persons with medical conditions which would hamper their operation of motor vehicles. *Oppose.*

H. 760—Providing that all driver school training vehicles be equipped with safety belts. *Approve.*

H. 628—Relative to equipment of motor vehicles with safety belts. *Approve.*

CORPORATE PRACTICE

H. 277, H. 276, H. 1310—An act authorizing the incorporation of professional corporations to practice specified professions. *Approve.*

HOSPITALS

H. 1375—Providing for the payment by the department of public health of operating costs or deficits for municipally owned nursing schools. *Recommend referral to Study Commission.*

H. 1657—Exempting the Plymouth County Hospital from reorganization of tuberculosis hospitals in the commonwealth for an additional five years. *Oppose.*

H. 1743—Exempting the position of director of hospitals in the city of Boston and the positions of not exceeding eleven assistant directors from the civil service laws. *Mr. Dunn to check.*

S. 141—Changes name of Westfield State Sanatorium to Western Massachusetts Hospital and provides for a capital outlay. *Approve.*

S. 144—To permit destruction of hospital records. "Any such record may be destroyed twenty-five years after the hospital discharge." *Mr. Dunn to check with Mass. Hospital Assoc. and recommend 35 years.*

S. 417—Authorizing a certain hospital to establish therein wards for the care and treatment of tuberculosis patients and providing for the entry of certain patients therein, and for payment by the commonwealth of one-half the cost of the care and treatment of such patients. *Oppose.*

INSURANCE

H. 441—Requiring medical service corporations to enter into contracts for services with its subscribers and other persons. *Oppose.*

H. 1089—Relative to issuance of general or blanket accident and health insurance policies for the benefit of Massachusetts citizens 65 or older. *Mr. Dunn to check.*

H. 1274—Relative to physicians, dentists and chiropodists entering into written agreements with medical service corporations. *Oppose.*

S. 109—An act providing for the formation of dental service corporations. *Approve*

S. 270—Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission for the revision of the laws relating to non-profit hospital and medical service corporations and the relationship between such corporations and the rising cost of hospital and medical care to the public. *Oppose.*

S. 398—To provide for group hospitalization insurance for recipients of old age assistance. *Mr. Dunn to check.*

H. 2950—Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to the methods of operation of Blue Cross and Blue Shield. *Oppose.*

LEGAL

H. 103—Repealing the law relative to the requirement of medical examiners to transmit to the state secretary certified copies of records of death investigated by them and certain other related matters. *Approve.*

H. 250—Relative to admissibility in evidence in cases of contract or tort for malpractice of certain statements of fact or opinion contained in published treatises, periodicals, books or pamphlets. *Oppose.*

H. 251—Exempting registered physicians from civil liability for treatment given under emergency conditions. *Approve.*

H. 1001—Clarifying certain provisions of the law relative to medical examiners. *Approve.*

H. 1002—Relative to clerks employed by medical examiners. *Approve.*

H. 1417—Granting tenure of office to certain medical examiners and associate medical examiners. *Approve.*

S. 288—Prohibiting physicians recommending attorneys in personal injury cases. *Oppose.*

S. 418—Requiring persons having knowl-

edge of certain deaths to notify the district attorney thereof. *Oppose.*

S. 285—To repeal "text book evidence" act. *Approve.*

MEDICAL SCHOOL

The Committee voted to oppose construction of a new medical school.

MENTAL HEALTH

H. 2822—Authorizing and directing the department of mental health to establish outpatient psychiatric clinics throughout the commonwealth. *Oppose.*

H. 2825—Authorizing the department of mental health to allocate three thousand dollars yearly to sustain the costs used to alleviate mental retardation in those newborn children suffering from a genetic effect which causes phenylketonuria. *Oppose as unnecessary.*

H. 60—Further defining certain duties of the commissioner of mental health. *Approve.*

MISCELLANEOUS

H. 2756—Requiring the footprints of a newborn child to be taken and records kept in every hospital where a child is born, and every physician who attends the birth of a child in a place other than a hospital shall cause the footprints of the child to be taken as soon as practicable. *Approve.*

PUBLIC HEALTH

H. 71—Reorganizing the department of public health and transferring the hospitals to the bureau of medical care in the department. *Approve.*

H. 73—Amends the establishment of tuberculosis treatment centers to include any county hospitals, municipal hospitals and hospitals licensed by the department of public health. *Approve.*

H. 75—Authorizes the department of public health to provide health services. *Approve if amended to exclude physician's services.*

H. 76—Amending limitation on registration of internes. *Approve.*

H. 83—Relative to support and care of unmarried pregnant women. *Mr. Dunn to investigate.*

H. 474—Exempting the Essex County Tuberculosis Hospital from the law providing for reorganization of tuberculosis care, treatment and control in the commonwealth. *Oppose.*

H. 578—Relative to salary of commissioner of public health. ($20,000) *Approve.*

H. 671—Providing that there shall be a doctor in attendance at all times in all hospitals. *Oppose.*

H. 835—Providing that rates for the care and treatment of patients at certain institutions under the control of the Department of Public Health shall be fixed by the director of the Division of Hospital Costs and Finances. *Mr. Dunn to check with Hospital Assoc.*

H. 838—Providing for the appointment of osteopathic physicians to the board of registration in medicine. *Oppose.*

H. 840—Requiring that all packages of cigarettes sold in the Commonwealth have printed on the outside of the package its nicotinic and tar content. *Approve in principle. Federal matter.*

H. 841—Requiring manufacturers and distributors of food and food products to indicate the cholesterol count contained in any food product offered for sale. *Oppose.*

H. 786—Prohibiting tattooing and tattooing establishments. *Approve.*

H. 1003—Requiring all public school pupils to be inoculated with Polio Vaccine. *Oppose. Unnecessary at this time.*

H. 1143—Providing for commitment of persons addicted to drugs and authorizing the department of public health to designate places or institutions as drug rehabilitation centers. *Approve if Section re physicians' reporting of narcotic addicts is removed.*

H. 1851—Chiropractic bill. *Oppose.*

S. 61—Establishing an in-patient treatment center at Tewksbury Hospital for drug addicts. *Approve.*

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S. 412—For the registration of clinical chemists, medical microbiologists and bio-analysts in Massachusetts. *Recommend Study by Study Commission.*

H. 1370—Allowing local boards of health or the electorate by referendum to decide whether or not to fluoridate any public water supply system. (Amends the existing law to allow departments of public health to decide whether or not to fluoridate either by public hearing or referendum. The present law requires the question to be put on the ballot.) *Approve.*

WELFARE

H. 1353—Relative to rights of institutions furnishing medical assistance. *Approve.*

H. 1354—Relative to institutions furnishing medical assistance. *Approve.*

H. 1640—Repealing the liability of children for support of parents under the medical assistance program. *Oppose.*

H. 1682—Relative to the payment of vendor medical, hospital and nursing home services. *Approve.*

S. 205—Senator Wall petitions that the General Court memorialize Congress to enact legislation providing retired persons 65 and over at least $200 a month, medical—hospital—nursing home—rest home—home care not to exceed $2,000, and funeral benefits of $400. *Oppose.*

S. 460—Directing local boards of public welfare to accept certain medical findings as final.

The bill reads:

"Local boards of public welfare shall accept the findings of a physician or physicians who are staff members of any (teaching) hospital in the commonwealth, when such a facility has been so licensed by the department of public health, as a final determination of medical eligibility of applicants for or recipients of disability assistance." *Approve if amended to remove "teaching."*

R. W. Emery, M.D.,
Legislative Councilor

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OF VITAL INTEREST

An unofficial analysis of death certificates of Springfield residents for 1961 revealed that a total of 1,723 persons died during the year. This figure does not include Springfield resident deaths occurring outside of the City.

The ten leading causes of death were:

Death of Springfield Residents - 1961

1.	Diseases of the heart	709
2.	Neoplasms	246
3.	Cerebrovascular lesions	195
4.	Pneumonia (all types)	146
5.	Accidents	93
6.	Diseases of the circulatory system	50
7.	Diseases of early infancy	44
8.	Bronchitis	40
9.	Cirrhosis of liver	22
10.	General arteriosclerosis	21
	All other causes	157
	Total	1,723

Deaths from heart disease lead the list with 41%; next, cancer with 14%; third, cerebrovascular accidents with 11%; fourth, pneumonia with 8%; and fifth, accidents with 5%. Approximately, 77% of the deaths were amongst those sixty years of age and above. As in the recent past, these statistics point up the fact that chronic diseases, particularly those of the cardiovascular system, are the major health problem of Springfield.

Insofar as maternal deaths are concerned, only one such occurred during the year. On the other hand, there were 39 still births and 82 deaths in children under one year of age. Of the latter, 44 occurred during early infancy and 9 were due to congenital malformations.

Deaths from infectious diseases during 1961 amounted to 11% or specifically:

Pneumonia	146
Bronchitis	40
Tuberculosis	1
Meningitis	3
Meningococal Infections	1

Only 5 deaths were due to diseases considered officially dangerous to the public health. Undoubtedly, many of the pneumonia and bronchitis deaths were a terminal insult superimposed upon some other prolonged illness.

The reported cases of infectious diseases were:

Reported Communicable Diseases in Springfield - 1961

Chickenpox	129
Dysentery	1
Encephalitis	4
German measles	80
Hepatitis	87
Measles	153
Meningitis	16
Mumps	126
Salmonella	15
Scarlet fever	285
Tuberculosis	40
Whooping cough	25

Although there is obviously an underreporting of the common communicable diseases of childhood, it is quite gratifying to see the low incidence of infectious diseases for which there are effective immunizing agents. The persistent relatively high prevalence of hepatitis is most disturbing.

Analyzing the deaths from accidents, we find that, by far, the home is the most dangerous place since 67 or 72% of the accidental deaths occurred therein and primarily as the result of falls.

There were 13 traffic deaths with 2 drivers, 2 passengers, and 9 pedestrians being the victims. Thirteen persons died as the result of burns and 5 drowned. There were five accidental poisonings; one each of methyl salicylate cleaning fluid, wood alcohol, carbon monoxide, and barbiturate toxicity.

One cause of death, rarely mentioned, but one to be dragged from out of the closet and into the light of day is that of suicide, to which 14 deaths, during the year, were attributed.

Ayres

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ECONOMIC QUACKERY

If one may define quackery as the peddling of remedies which are ineffectual or woefully inadequate, one may brand the King-Anderson approach to the problems of medical care for the aged as quackery . . . One may consider a man 67 years old requiring a prostatectomy, involving a two-week hospitalization. He will emerge from his hospital stay owing, conservatively, a $400 hospital bill and a $250 doctor bill. If the King-Anderson bill were in effect, he would be left with $90 to pay the hospital and $250 to pay the physician, or a total of $340 . . .For a great deal less than this $340, the patient could have purchased insurance for himself and for his dependents which would have completely paid the hospital bill and completely paid the doctor.

—The Pennsylvania Medical Journal

NEW STATUS

Dr. John A. Burke resigned as Treasurer at the Executive Committee meeting held on Tuesday, January 16, 1962. He is taking a new job as Medical Director at the Volunteer State Life Insurance Company at Chattanooga, Tennessee. Dr. B. Lincoln Wales was appointed by Dr. Whitney and the Executive Committee to fill out Dr. Burke's term for the remainder of this year.

Dr. Francis Hurley has been appointed by Dr. Whitney to head up a new committee - namely, Hospitals and Health Agencies.

ANYTHING ON YOUR MIND? SHARE IT WITH THE HIPPOCRAT.

SPRINGFIELD ACADEMY LIBRARY

The Academy Library subscribes to, and receives as gifts, about 125 periodicals ranging all the way from The Journal of The Academy of General Practice to the Year Book of Urology. In between there are such off-beat journals as those on Angiology, Tropical Medicine, Oral Surgery, Environmental Health, Fertility and Sterility, U. S. Armed Forces, etc., etc. Ninety of these journals are bound in volumes.

The current issue of each journal is displayed on the journal racks, with the previous issues of the same volume stacked nearby.

The accompanying photograph shows Mrs. Grace Flanagan, Academy Librarian, in attendance.

Visit and use the Academy Library!

PEDIATRIC GUEST SPEAKER

On Thursday, March 8, 1962, at the Springfield Hospital, the speaker will be Park S. Gerald, M.D., Associate Physician and Assistant Hematologist at the Children's Hospital, Boston, Mass. His subject will be "The Hemoglobinopathies".

On Thursday, April 12, 1962, Robert L. Cranny, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the Albany Medical College of Union University, Albany, New York, will speak on "Pediatric Endocrinology - A Pleomorphic Neophyte".

ACADEMY

Dorothy Horstmann, M. D.

At the March 13 meeting of the Springfield Academy of Medicine the speaker will be Dorothy Horstmann, M.D., Professor of Preventive Medicine, Yale University. Her topic will be "What's New in Virology". The clinical conference will be held at the Wesson Memorial Hospital, 5 P. M.

At the April 10, 1962 meeting of the Springfield Academy of Medicine the speaker will be Theodore R. Miller, M.D., Instructor in Surgery, Cornell University Medical College, and Attending Surgeon and Radiotherapist, Neoplastic Diseases, Pack Medical Group, New York, N. Y. The topic of his lecture will be on "Problem of Gastric Cancer and Soft Parts Sarcoma". The pre-meeting clinical Conference will be at the Mercy Hospital at 5:00 p.m.

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"MEDIPHONE" BEGAN FUNCTIONING JAN. 8

A new national service for physicians described as "the world's first center for emergency drug information", started dispensing information on Jan. 8. This would be "Mediphone", a Washington-based operation offering the nation's physicians and their institutions a subscription service for speedy acquisition of latest information on new and old drugs. One of key backers is the NYC medical publicist, Dr. Cortez F. Enloe. Other directors include such known figures as California's Russell V. Lee, Ohio State Medical Dean Richard L. Meiling, NYC Nutritionist William H. Sebrell, Jr., and the Lovelace Foundation's Albert H. Schwichtenberg, all MD's.

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PUBLIC RELATIONS ACTIVITIES

I. Vigorous campaign on King-Anderson Bill and Kerr-Mills Law.

a. Each member to distribute 5 copies of the A.M.A. Testimonial on HR 4222

b. With assistance from Springfield Chamber of Commerce, PR Committee and Executive Committee combined to develop a roster of fifty "Minute-Men" for Congressional Action. To bombard Washington with fifty personal letters from H.D.M.S. whenever alerted by President, PR Chairman or designated representative.

c. Block-ad type statement in Hippocrat giving majority position of H.D.M.S. reference to "K-A" vs "K-M".

d. Quarter page ad in local newspaper giving majority opinion in "K-A Bill and K-M Law" over signature of 300 H.D.M.S. members.

e. Contact "Old Age" groups for discussion of the Kennedy Bill and present available media of Health Care for the Aged.

f. Intensive *publicity* (to H.D.M.S. members) of A. M. P. A. C. through *Hippocrat,* Headquarters-Newsletter and word-of mouth. (See page 25).

g. Meeting with Cong. Boland, February 10, 1962, at 11:00 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce.

II. New Medical School Issue

In answer to Editorial in Springfield Union, December 22, 1961; H.D.M.S. to be kept fully informed on "New Medical School" issue. Information to be obtained from Legislators, Educators at U. of M. and interested local civic leaders. (Information to be factual . . opinions sought to be on *all* sides of the issue).

III. H.D.M.S. Sunday Newspaper Series.

a. First article published Sunday, 1/14/62. Weekly series January, February, March and April, (See page 4).

IV. Internal Relations

A. Rules and Regulations for H.D.M.S. Office Headquarters.

B. Every member to be solicited for work.

C. More attention to the "individual" member.

D. Rules, regulations and scope of activities of the PR Committee . . "to be prepared for Executive Committee approval.

A. A. Palermo, M.D.,
Chairman

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The opinions expressed in The Hippocrat do not necessarily represent the official viewpoint of the Hampden District Medical Society.

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